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BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

WILLIAM A. MUNDELL
Chairman

JIM IRVIN

Commissioner
MARC SPITZER

Commissioner

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF
ARIZONA WATER COMPANY, AN ARIZONA
CORPORATION, FOR ADJUSTMENTS TO ITS
RATES AND CHARGES FOR UTILITY SERVICE
FURNISHED BY ITS NORTHERN GROUP AND
FOR CERTAIN RELATED APPROVALS

Docket No. W-01445A-00-0962

**STAFF'S OBJECTION TO CITY OF
CASA GRANDE'S APPLICATION/
MOTION TO INTERVENE**

Staff for the Utilities Division ("Staff") of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") hereby respectfully requests that the City of Casa Grande's ("Casa Grande") Application/Motion to Intervene be denied.

Under A.A.C. R14-3-105(A), an intervenor must be "directly and substantially affected by the proceedings." This case deals with rates for the Northern Group of Arizona Water Company (the "Company"). Casa Grande is not a customer of the Company's Northern Group.

Under A.A.C. R14-3-105(B), an intervenor's application must be filed "at least 5 days before the proceeding is called for hearing." In this case, the hearing was on September 5, 2001. Casa Grande filed its application to intervene on September 16, 2002; over a year after the hearing. Thus, the application is untimely.

Under A.A.C. R14-3-105(B), an application to intervene will not be granted when it will cause the "issues theretofor presented [to] be unduly broadened." Casa Grande is a customer of the Company's Western Group. The rate increase in this case is being considered for the Northern Group. Any discussion of the Western Group in this proceeding will unduly broaden the issues in this case.

Under A.A.C. R14-3-105(C), "any consumer or prospective consumer may appear at any proceeding and make a statement on his own behalf." Casa Grande argues that it needs the ability to gather information and question Company practices. Even if denied status as an intervenor, Casa

1 Grande would still have the opportunity to go to all the hearings and make a statement on his own
2 behalf.

3 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 23rd day of September, 2002.

4 ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

5
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